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THE
ANTICIPATION
OF THE
CRISIS.
ADDRESSED TO
THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY
OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

[Price One Shilling.]

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OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

" Meritò plectimur, dum nemini nostrum libet scire, quid
" saluti suæ opus sit." PLINY.

L O N D O N,

Printed for the AUTHOR;

And sold by J. BOWEN, No. 40, New-Bond-Street;
and at his Circulating Library at Brighthelmston.

MDCCCLXXXII.

THE
ANTI-SLAVER

OF THE

CHRISTIAN

ADDRESS TO

THE SOCIETY AND

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

"Methinks I see you, when you stand before the Lord, and
say, 'I have done my duty.'"

LONDON

Printed by J. G. ALLEN

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and at the Press of J. G. ALLEN, No. 1, St. Paul's Church-yard

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TO THE
NOBILITY AND GENTRY
OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

NATIONAL interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community; being the objects proposed in the following pages; and as those who possess much have much to preserve; I take the liberty to address myself to you, flattering myself I shall not give offence by soliciting you to enter into an investigation of propositions so very interesting to yourselves and beneficial to the public; with an attention and resolution suitable to the importance of a subject on which so much depends.

B

Extensively

Extensively interesting as they are, there is only one obstacle that can prevent the proposed objects from being obtained with the greatest facility. But well knowing that it would require a more general knowledge of men and things, as well as a greater share of natural and improved abilities, than I possess, to remove that stubborn impediment, I made repeated applications to those I knew had it in their power; and like many others, mistakenly, thought would readily and gladly give their assistance to promote a business of such national consequence, and so materially interesting to every family in the kingdom; but always found that, instead of giving their assistance, they rather chose to add as many obstacles as presented themselves.

Being thus disappointed, and fully convinced that neither assistance nor advice was ever to be expected from any of the faculty living, it came into my mind to have recourse to the records of the dead. I did so, and had the happiness, among those whose sentiments coincided with my own, to find the well-remembered names of Sloane, Garth, Hulse, Bateman, Millington, Harvey, and upwards of forty other of the most respectable members of the college.

These learned recorders of medical facts (or as they themselves sometimes term them medical fourberies)

shocked

shocked and grieved at the depredations continually made on the health, lives, and fortunes of the people by a corrupt profession, formed themselves into a society apart from the rest of their colleagues, and in a treatise (which in the following pages I shall beg permission to denominate *Records*) printed in the year 1703, entitled, "The Crafts and Frauds of Physic exposed, with instructions to prevent being cheated and destroyed by the prevailing practice;" they thus address themselves to all ranks of people.

"We must importune you for your own advantage and the preservation of your health and life, and of your relations, friends, and posterity, to give yourselves the trouble to consider from what sort of enemies we wish to deliver you. We would divert you from the present practice, equally dangerous to health and life, and the more so, because they assault you under the disguise of your dearest and most obliging friends, and from your over-credulity have taken opportunities to deceive you; and finding wealth, equipage, and fame, were readily acquired by amusement and cheat, and the parties deceived well pleased with the artifice and specious colours the deceit was covered with, they soon spread the disease of physic, like a pestilential vapour, to every part of the nation; and suffered usage and custom so far to stifle all remorse, as to

“ kill and destroy by ways unseen and unobserved by
 “ the laws. When they have been asked why they
 “ persist to abuse and destroy their patients, the old
 “ usually answer, they are ashamed to own their vil-
 “ lainsy by reforming that practice now ; and that it
 “ is not worth the while to begin to be honest at the
 “ end of one’s life. Others tell you that they will
 “ leave physic as they found it, and not give themselves
 “ the trouble to treat the sick more faithfully, which
 “ may bring all those, who may be discovered or pre-
 “ judiced by it, like so many wasps and hornets about
 “ their ears. The remedy must be applied to this
 “ evil by *every particular* watching. You cannot
 “ be too severe, whatever kind of execution you
 “ award.”

By considering these and many other similar friendly
 admonitions, I was led to conclude, that as the ob-
 stacle to the attainment of the extensive benefits
 pointed out by those learned and honest physicians,
 those real guardians of health, originated in the unac-
 countable prejudices and want of discernment in all
 ranks of people at that time, they will still remain in-
 superable to all other attempts, than a proper exertion
 of the better cultivated reason, superior abilities, and
 more extensive discernment of the present age.
 Should this impediment be removed by a continuance
 of that exertion, by a proper attention to the advice
 and

and information of those recorders of medical facts (from whom I propose to give further extracts in the course of the following work), and by what I shall offer to your consideration, an opportunity will present itself to you for not only promoting your own welfare and happiness, but also national interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community.

Nº 127, New Bond-street.

R. W H I T E.

* * * For obvious reasons, no letters will be received by the post, unless free.

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(from whom I propose to give further extracts in the
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and happiness, but also national interests, national in-
dustry, and the general advantage of the community.

R. W. H. I. T. E.

No 107, New Bond Street.

** For others reasons, no letters will be received by the post,
unless they are accompanied by a post-paid stamp.

THE

and compositions, which, in preparation of the work, they have the courtesy to call witnesses, and to affirm that the best can be obtained for curing such diseases.

ANTICIPATION

known, though not the less certain. It shall therefore be my object to prove from the physicians' reports in high esteem, from authors of foreign countries in the writings of the most approved teachers of the present century, that the physicians, and likewise the religious of the infidel nations, have mentioned, as well as from the disease of reason and misfortune, that their towns and histories are generally derived from an unlimited dependence on the physicians' and on the writers' falsely called

C R I S I S

IT will be needless to have recourse either to the records of the dead, or the writings of the living, to prove that this nation is annually deprived of several thousands of useful members of the community by *putrid, malignant, camp, and other fevers*; exclusive of a great number of others who are thrown into consumptions, dropries, &c. and sent to languish, and often die, at Bath, or in foreign countries. But it is not so well known that these losses and misfortunes usually proceed from a too general regard and confidence being placed in those who call themselves *Guardians of Health*, and the miserable trumpery mixtures and

and compositions, which, in profanation of the word, they have the effrontery to call *medicines*, and to affirm are the best that can be obtained for curing such diseases,

This interesting truth, I say, is not so publicly known, though not the less certain. It shall therefore be my business to prove from the prescriptions of physicians at present in high esteem, from authentic recipes contained in the writings of the most approved teachers of the present extraordinary practice of physic, and likewise from the testimonies of the justly-esteemed physicians I have mentioned, as well as from the dictates of reason and incontrovertible facts, that these losses and misfortunes are principally derived from an unlimited dependance on that practice, and on the vile mixtures falsely called *Medicines*; and not from the original nature of the disease.

In my "Observations on fevers", and enquiry into the causes that so many die of fevers under the care of the most eminent physicians," I have stated the two following propositions: First, "that the *Materia Medica* does not contain any medicines or medicine, which, according to the dictates of reason, or the common rules of humanity, ought to be depended upon for the cure of epi-

* That Treatise may be had to read gratis at Mr. Bowen's.

"demic

" demic fevers." And secondly, " That though it
 " is commonly said there are many different deno-
 " minations of fevers, their specific differences are
 " seldom distinguishable at first; but, on the con-
 " trary, their various symptoms of malignity, putri-
 " dity, &c. generally come on by degrees; and
 " consequently, if opposed in time by such re-
 " medies as are adapted to resist putrefaction, and
 " to defend the heart and other vital parts from
 " malignant attacks, by gently insinuating them-
 " selves to their relief without weakening the con-
 " stitution, or disturbing the stomach, fevers would
 " seldom, if ever, appear under so many different
 " and alarming forms." And such were the opera-
 " tions of the medicines which the learned recorders of
 " medical frauds, in page 137 of their records, declare
 " were made use of in the time of the honest and
 " successful practice of physic, when it had a just
 " regard to the welfare of the patient." " They
 " are now," say they, " thought to be troublesome in
 " the preparation, effect the cure in small quantities,
 " and prevent the grand design of the projected
 " profit."

Whether the mixtures which are said to be the
very best that can be had for the cure of a fever,
 and which at this time are generally made use of,
 can have any such salutary effects, the reader may

be informed by a careful perusal of the following recipe, prescribed by a physician, at present in high esteem, for a person afflicted with as tedious and violent a fever as perhaps any man ever recovered from.

℞ Salt of wormwood . . . 4 scruples.

Juice of lemons . . . 2 ounces.

Spermaceti . . . 1½ dram.

White sugar . . . 4 scruples.

And these all shook together in a bottle, with what? With a much greater quantity than all the rest of an ingredient very convenient and beneficial to the prescribers and venders, but which is declared, by the most respectable jury of physicians that ever gave judgement on a medical question, to be extremely *pernicious* and *hurtful* in all fevers, namely, nothing better (worse it need not be) than six ounces of *Alixiterial Water*; which, like the poetical waters of Lethé, very often deprive those who drink them, freely, of the power to think. This and the like ingredients, under different names, are conveyed into the chambers of the sick, in never-ceasing streams. For we are told by the modern professors and teachers of the practice of physic, and I am very sorry to say that the public are in general too ready to believe them, that half-sheet prescriptions for such trivial ingredients as white sugar, spermaceti,

spermaceti, salt of wormwood, or some salt or other, shook together in a bottle with the beforementioned pernicious water, directing four spoonfuls thereof to be taken every six hours, contain the *best remedy* that can be given for the cure of a violent fever.

But I must inform those learned teachers and practisers of physick, and likewise the public, that after the patient, for whom the foregoing prescription was ordered, had been nearly *three months* under such management, and lay apparently at the point of death, I had the satisfaction to rid him of his fever in *two days*, by a medicine similar to those made use of in the time of the honest and successful practice of physick; and by a continuance of the like remedies to restore him to perfect health in a fortnight *.

Was the subject I am investigating of a less serious nature than that whereon the lives of every rank of my fellow-subjects depend, I should not have been able to have given a transcript of such a recipe, written by a grave physician for the cure of a violent fever, without a smile. But whatever impression the perusal of it may make on the minds of my readers, I can assure them, with truth, that mine has often been impressed with very unpleasant sensations on reading that and others of a similar nature, by reflect-

* Vide Case annexed.

ing how many of my fellow-creatures are continually cut off in the bloom of youth, the prime of life, or at a more advanced age; by which parents are rendered childless, children orphans, families afflicted, and frequently reduced from a comfortable subsistence to penury and want, through an implicit dependance on such miserable paltry medlies, which may as well be given to raise the dead as to cure an epidemic fever. And I can truly say that for a series of near thirty years, during which time I have carefully attended to the method of curing all the epidemic fevers which have prevailed in this kingdom, I never met with a single recipe of any of the faculty, that prescribed any thing more likely to cure a fever than the foregoing; or that may reasonably be supposed to be sent in with any other view than to grace the side-board, to amuse the friends and attendants of the patient while waiting for the too-often fatal crisis, and to conduce to the emolument of the prescribers and venders.

How different are such doctrine and methods from those of *real* students in physic! The learned Langius asserts; "That a good physician must cure a fever without a crisis; for, if a crisis must be waited for, medicine would be useless." That careful scrutinizer into the secret treasures of nature, as well as many other sedulous students in chemistry and

and every branch of the hermetic science, well knew that all fevers could, and therefore ought to be, cured in a very short time. And it is also asserted by the authorities I have so frequently had occasion to mention, "that when any person is seized with a fever, an honest and skilful physician can give him one remedy with an assurance of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in two or three days."

But, say those learned gentlemen, "if fevers were now to be cured in that speedy manner, the numerous profession could not be maintained. Fevers are their stated marts for prescribing and vending their trumpery pearl julips, their boles, testatias, bezoardics, &c. &c. which are to be washed down by a much greater quantity than all the rest of the pernicious waters beforementioned." The profession therefore wisely resolved to discard from their service, and prohibit the use of, all *salubrious* remedies, because they were troublesome in the preparation, and cured fevers so speedily and effectually as to prevent the grand design of the projected profit.

I have, however, the satisfaction to inform my countrymen, that, notwithstanding this valuable remedy has been so long laid aside, it has not been lost;

lost; and that during the many years I have carefully attended to the cure of all the epidemic fevers that have happened in this kingdom, I have given that one remedy *indiscriminately* to people of every age and sex afflicted with those diseases, not only with assurance, but also with the effectual return of health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days, without one single failure, when the disease had not first been aggravated by fashionable mixtures, although at the same time many individual families lost two, three, or more of their members under the immediate care of the faculty. I will therefore venture to affirm, that, by sufficient support from the nobility and gentry, I could enable every master and mistress of a family in the nation, as well as the surgeons in our armies and navy, to give to those under their care seized with fevers that one remedy, with an assurance of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days; and thereby realize all the interesting objects proposed, viz. *national interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community.*

In order more fully to convince the public on what a precarious tenure they hold their health, lives, and fortunes, when fevers are prevalent, and at the same time to induce them in this interesting enquiry to lay aside every prejudice, and every prepossession
in

in favour of any particular description of men, or of established customs, I shall proceed to give them, in the words of the teachers of the present practice of physic, the affecting and tragical catalogue of dangers and sufferings they truly tell us all ranks are liable to who have the misfortune to be afflicted with fevers, and, let me add, the ill-hap to fall under professional management.

“ The periods of fevers, say they, begin with the
 “ following symptoms: languor, weariness, weak-
 “ ness, insensibility of the extremities, cold and trem-
 “ bling, pain in the back, horripilatio, paleness, a
 “ dry foul tongue and thirst, paleness and dryness
 “ in ulcers, a small pulse, pain in the limbs, joints,
 “ and forehead, blindness, delirium; and unless the
 “ symptoms of the first stage destroy the patient,
 “ which they frequently do, these are followed by
 “ rigor and horror, heat arising from the præcordia,
 “ and diffused from thence over the whole body,
 “ irregularly, unequally, and flushing; a strong full
 “ obstructed pulse, or a very frequent small one;
 “ great pain in the head and joints; stupor and de-
 “ lirium; universal soreness; redness arising in dif-
 “ ferent parts; sweating in the head and breast, or
 “ over the whole body; partial secretions, petechiæ,
 “ &c. &c.”

How

How many days or weeks patients generally continue in this situation these gentlemen do not mention; it therefore becomes necessary for me to inform the public, that I have frequently known (and I presume some of them have unhappily experienced the same) that epidemic fevers have put a period to the lives of two or three in a family, under the present mode of practice, in a few days. Many patients languish under those symptoms for twenty or thirty days, the fever all that time ravaging the constitution by drying up the radical moisture, wasting the solids, and depressing the spirits. Nor can any one be surprized at this, when he considers the medicines, as they are termed, wherewith the patient and friends are amused, whilst the fever is passing through the different symptoms and stages, so justly and pathetically described, to the crisis, and frequently to the death of the afflicted patient.

Having thus given a transcript of the *dolorous* symptoms which the teachers of the present practice of physic say all those are liable to undergo who have the misfortune to be afflicted with fevers (that is, if they have the additional ill-hap to fall under professional management); I shall, with all due deference to those learned gentlemen, both for their information and that of the public, add a new list of symptoms not less alarming than the former, and which I presume were forgot

forgot to be inserted in the third edition, corrected, of the Present Practice of Physic. These symptoms are, copious bleeding, starving, blistering, the death of the patient, affliction of relatives and friends, distress and ruin of families; and I am persuaded that every judicious enquirer after the means of self-preservation, who shall carefully examine the modern prescriptions herein given, will readily agree with me that this additional list of symptoms may very aptly be denominated *alixiterial* or *pernicious water* symptoms.

Having proceeded through the different pages of "The Present Practice of Physic" till I arrived at the doctrine of FEVERS, and examined the causes, indications, and painful symptoms attendant on that disease, the latter of which the reader has just had an opportunity of seeing enumerated, I found in the margin of one of the pages the word CURE. It having always been my study to accomplish that, I read every line relative to it with all the attention in my power, and found the first proposition to be, "That the fever is to be put a stop to, if possible, by the most powerful means." Pleased with this excellent theory, I went on and examined the prescriptions for the remedies that were to be made use of in the "cure of the violent, otherwise the putrid, malignant, jail, camp, hospital, and petechial fevers, the which, say they, we are to endeavour to lessen by an emetic."

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I will

I will not enter into a physical disquisition on the propriety of giving an emetic at the beginning of every fever; I shall only observe, that in all the cases that have come under my inspection during a period of near thirty years, I have never met with one instance (*where the disorder had not been previously aggravated by other methods*), that it was not so soon removed by the use of the chemical febrifuge I am now recommending to the attention of the public, as to render an emetic and every other precarious experiment totally unnecessary. However, when an emetic is needful, those there ordered are very proper, and the only prescriptions in the whole train that can be given without a much greater certainty of *accelerating* the dangerous symptoms, than of *stopping the progress of the disease*.

For in the very first instance, after the emetic, as it intended to counteract any advantage that might have been received thereby, the stomach is to be settled with one ounce and a half of alixiterial water, mixed with from ten to twenty drops of liquid laudanum; both of which as certainly aggravate a fever as they are conveyed into the stomach, as I shall hereafter prove from authorities too numerous and respectable to be controverted. And yet there is scarcely a prescription written by the present practitioners and teachers of physic as a cure for every species of fevers,
that

that does not contain a much greater quantity of alixiterial or some other pernicious water, than all the rest of the trivial insignificant ingredients. To proceed. After the stomach has been pretended to be settled by a mixture well calculated to disturb the head and stomach of a person *in health*, the directions are as follow: "If the fever continues" (which it certainly will by such treatment), "every evening after that in which the emetic was given, until the fifth day, the following prescription is to be ordered:

R. White sugar . . . 20 grains.

Emetic tartar . . . $\frac{1}{2}$ a grain or 1 grain.

Divide these into two powders, one to be taken every eight or eleven hours, with the following draught:

R. Mint-water . . . 1 ounce and a half.

Nutmeg-water . . . 2 drams.

Syrup of mulberries . . . 2 drams.

We are now arrived at the sixth day that a raging fever has been assisted in making inroads on the constitution of the afflicted patient; and I am persuaded that there are very few of those who read the preceding account but what will feel one of the symptoms said to be attendant on fevers, namely, *FOROR*, when they observe how the lives of their fellow-creatures are trifled with till the evening of the fifth day of a species

of fever, which, if not put a stop to by the most powerful means, as those very teachers of physic justly observe it ought to be, frequently destroys the patient in two or three days. But what are *the powerful means* employed by the profession till the sixth day? A great deal of physical parade, if the patient is of sufficient consequence, two or three coaches standing at the door, and an equal number of half-sheet prescriptions for the trumpery mixtures already described. And on these do the health, lives, and constitutions of all ranks of people in this country depend, when fevers are prevalent, for want of a real and efficacious febrifuge to anticipate the crisis, and put an immediate stop to that disorder and all its alarming symptoms.

Here let me, in imitation of those respectable recorders of medical truths so frequently mentioned, importune my readers in the most earnest manner to pause awhile; and consider with what heart-felt sorrow their minds must be oppressed, should any beloved relative be attacked with a fever, and, having by such means been conducted to the sixth day, is suffered to arrive at the alarming state before described! would they not be overwhelmed with grief, and experience the most anxious solicitude to obtain some certain and effectual remedy for the preservation of the object of their affections? They certainly would, and consequently

quently must rejoice to be informed that such a remedy is still to be found (though not to be sold), safe, innocent, and grateful to the human frame, that operates expeditiously and effectually, that will prevent all the foregoing horrid symptoms, and generally in a few hours give assurance of returning health.

I shall now proceed to inform my readers what sort of mixtures the present teachers and professors of physick call the *most powerful means* to remove the fever after the fifth day. What advantage may be expected from them, let the judicious reader determine when he has perused the following prescription :

℞ Mint-water, one ounce and a half ; syrup of mulberries or lemons, sufficient to make it grateful ; and one dram of syrup of violets. To be taken every four hours ; and, if the body be not sufficiently open, to one of the draughts may be added two or three drams of Glauber salts.

As the teachers of the present practice of physick do not give us journals of their proceedings, we must form conclusions from circumstances, and suppose that this last extraordinary prescription, *the powerful means of putting a stop to the most violent fever*, was to be continued till the thirteenth or fourteenth day, or perhaps longer,

longer, as nothing else is prescribed, only a remark, that small doses of neutral salts have been exhibited at this period of the disease, but for the most part without advantage. Experiments ought never to be tried in a fever; it can, and therefore should be, put an immediate stop to; and neutral salts could not be given without detriment to the patient, or with any other view than to amuse, and to fill up a prescription. Such are the mixtures and compositions made use of in the present practice, as the teachers and practitioners say, for *the cure* of a fever, but, as my respectable medical guides and I say, for *the aggravation* of it.

We are now, I believe, arrived at the fifteenth, or perhaps the twentieth day, that the disease has been allowed to ravage the constitution of the afflicted patient; during which time nature has held out against both the disorder and the medicines, without one single article having been prescribed that could have any other tendency than to accelerate the affecting symptoms and the fatal catastrophe, *excepting some juice of lemons or mulberries*, and that always joined with a much greater quantity of ingredients pernicious in all fevers. And yet the people of this kingdom have for near a century been prevailed upon to believe that these and the like trivial and laughable *mixtures* are *medicines*, and the best that can be procured for the
cure

cure of diseases so often fatal under professional management. And thus have the lives of the sons and daughters of Britain been trifled away.

The next information we receive under the word cure is, "That if the symptoms of the first stage should increase with great violence in the second week, particularly the delirium, blisters have been often applied to the head and back with advantage." This mode of proceeding, however, is very uncertain; and, as I have said before, experiments ought to be avoided. For though blisters are at present much in vogue, we are informed, from the same respectable authority I have so frequently quoted, "That in some delirious fevers, every one to whom they were applied had their tongues made dry, the delirium increased, to which convulsions succeeded, and the patients all died; and," continue these reporters of medical truths, "you may make your observation if the leaping of the tendons do not rise more strongly upon the application of every pair of blisters; and when that symptom continueth, more are laid on, till the just number is filled up. But the chief reason in these cases is, that they make the cure more observable by more torment being given; and it hath been made fashionable, from the opportunities they afford of more frequent attendance." To which I can add, from my

my own experience, that in every fever I have met with for near thirty years past, where blisters had been previously applied, it was very difficult to remove it. Whether it will be better that this disease should for the future be suffered to continue for so long a time, and the patient to endure such tormenting experiments, merely for the *purposes* mentioned in the foregoing extract; or that a febrifuge should be introduced into general use (the promotion of which is the design of this treatise) so that every family afflicted with fevers may be assured of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days, must be left to the judicious resolves of the nobility and gentry, on whom, after Divine Providence, it entirely depends.

Having given my readers the sentiments of the respectable society of studious gentlemen (I have chosen for my guides), respecting painful and precarious experiments being tried in fevers, I now invite those, who may think this enquiry of sufficient consequence to engage their attention, to a careful examination of the next and last prescriptions wherewith pupils are taught, as the teachers and professors say, *to cure* fevers, during their initiation into the profound mysteries of the present extraordinary practice of physic, and they are preparing to be let loose on the public. We must now suppose it to be the third week since
the

the patient was first seized ; and I presume we may conclude his strength and patience to be greatly exhausted, his fluids contaminated, his solids wasted, and his lamp of life nearly extinguished ; or if not, that the alarming symptoms are sufficiently visible to show that the fever is become putrid, malignant, or petechial. We must not, however, be too sanguine in our hopes, that the happy moment is arrived for affording the afflicted patient relief : for, except a clyster, which probably might be very proper and useful, the prescriptions consist of,

℞. Mint water 1½ ounce.
 China mulk from 2 to 6 grains.
 Syrup of orange peel . . 2 drams.
 Pepper mint water . . . 2 drams.

To be taken every six hours.

And if these draughts render the pulse quicker (which in all probability they will), they are to be changed ; and for what I shall acquaint the reader, for

℞. Mint water 1½ ounce.
 Peru-Bark from 15 to 30 grains.
 Syrup of orange peel . . 2 drams.
 Pepper mint water . . . 1 dram.

If the reader has seriously considered the whole train of prescriptions, wherewith students in physic

E

are

are taught to cure the alarming diseases so frequently mentioned, I humbly presume he will with me sincerely and devoutly say, "From such a practice
 " of physic may the All-wise Architect of that beautiful and wonderful structure the human frame
 " deliver these dominions, and every power in peace
 " and friendship with Great-Britain!" For surely never were the lives and constitutions of a people so trifled with; and that at a time when England boasts of a greater number of learned and dignified physicians than any nation in Europe. *Learned and dignified*, however, as they may be, I will speak the truth, and tell them, that if I was a member of the College of Physicians, and prescribed, *or even silently acquiesced* in the prescription of such paltry, trumpery, insignificant mixtures, under a pretence of curing a violent fever, *I should deserve to be hanged.*

Where can we now find forty-eight honest guardians of health, who, in imitation of the revered and well-remembered SLOANE, HULSE, GARTH, HARVEY, and the other forty-four, the most respectable members of the medical college at that time, make use of their learning, abilities, and credit, to secure their fellow-subjects from torment and the loss of life by the corrupt practice of physic; a practice which being even then sunk into the craft of deceiving, and making profit by new medicines, became fashionable,

able, and will continue so as long as the unhappy people suffer themselves to be deluded?

Where are now the forty-eight conscientious physicians who will boldly make known to all ranks of people, that the great bounty of Providence is in this nation shamefully perverted; that the salutary medicines it has bestowed in great plenty are withheld from the poor by the exorbitancy of their price; and that their wonderful and almost certain power to cure disease are prevented from being beneficial to the rich, by their being either viciously prepared, or given for gain in quantities to the detriment and danger of the sick?

Or where are the medical philanthrops, that will imitate the forty-eight respectable scrutinizers into medical impositions, and generously inform the whole community of an important medical truth, which it highly concerns every family in the kingdom to be acquainted with, namely that there are medicines to be found infinitely more efficacious in the cure of fevers than the noxious mixtures usually administered?

I much fear, not one of the faculty would dare to give such information, though so strongly urged by humanity and truth, lest, as in the days of the *honest*

recorders of medical facts, they should bring the whole fraternity, like so many wasps or hornets, about their ears. As there is so little probability of finding living physicians to give the important information, I will do it from the same respectable authority so frequently quoted in the preceding pages, and from well-known facts.

That all the prescriptions in a liquid form before transcribed, which the reader has had an opportunity of examining, and which are said by the present teachers of physic to be for the cure of malignant fevers, contain a much greater quantity of ingredients, that, instead of being salutary, are pernicious and destructive in every kind of fevers, than of all the other trivial articles added together. And I believe I may venture to affirm, without the least apprehension of deviating from truth, that more than two thirds of the losses and afflictions sustained in the kingdom, for a century past, from the effects of fevers, have proceeded from the vile and corrupt systems and theory of physic introduced at the time the medical revolution took place.

We are informed, by unexceptionable authority, that the *hermetic febrifuge*, with every other good and valuable medicine were then discarded and laid aside because they were troublesome in preparation,
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cured diseases quickly and in small quantities, and thereby prevented the grand design of the projected profit: while others were brought into use entirely adapted to the furtherance of those nefarious purposes; as the reader has been already informed, and may be more fully convinced, from the following testimonials of the respectable guardians of health, I have so frequently had occasion to mention.

“ Simple waters,” say they, “ were invented by
 “ the ARABIANS. The vanity of amusing with new
 “ medicines, and the artifice of converting cheap
 “ herbs into dear and costly remedies, incited them to
 “ outdo one another by preparing and extolling the
 “ waters drawn from almost every plant in the field.
 “ Every one had its turn to be cried up and admired,
 “ to defraud, delude, and destroy the patient. Honest
 “ physicians have often passed sentence upon them,
 “ that they are of no other use than to increase the
 “ bulk of the julep mixed with a hot compound
 “ water. They corrupt in a little time, and are as
 “ cordial and spirituous as the water stagnating in a
 “ ditch, or as dead beer. The cooling acrid plants
 “ will not make the waters of any use to cool or ex-
 “ tinguish the heat of a fever, being ungrateful,
 “ vapid, and palling to the stomach; remaining
 “ there crude and oppressive, and cannot afterwards
 “ remove themselves from the blood, either by sweat
 “ or urine.”

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“ The compound waters are made with the spirits
 “ of malt or molosses, but give no part of the vir-
 “ tues contained in many of the ingredients; and
 “ from others only a small part of their foetid oil;
 “ which being divided by those inflaming spirits,
 “ cause wind and flatulencies which the juleps are
 “ taken for and pretended to subdue. The phy-
 “ sical and amusing names of the compound waters,
 “ supported with the precious additions, make the
 “ practice appear less scandalous and unsuspected;
 “ justified by the advice of the artist, who gains not
 “ only great profit by the constant vent, but like-
 “ wise the consequent necessity of other courses of
 “ physic. And when the patient has lost all appe-
 “ tite and digestion, the generous tinctures and
 “ elixirs, the acidulate chalybeat waters, or those of
 “ the Bath, are brought in, to repair health depraved
 “ by this fashionable debauch.” The reader will
 readily perceive how exactly this doctrine agrees
 with that I have been endeavouring to inculcate
 throughout this work.

Here, ye *honest members* of the medical college!
 permit me to appeal to you. Is not the information,
 I herein offer to the consideration of the nobility and
 gentry, consonant to truth? If it is, let me solicit you
 to assist in exploding so nefarious a practice; and
 prevent the health and lives of our fellow-subjects
 from

from being thus trifled away. Consider how valuable the lives of Britons are at this important juncture, when the nation is involved in a destructive and precarious war with many powerful enemies. Great numbers of the inhabitants of this metropolis, as well as of every other part of the kingdom, together with too many of our soldiers and sailors, are cut off by epidemic disorders. Let us no longer suffer their lives to be risked on a few grains of white sugar, half a grain or a grain of emetic tartar, alixiterial water, and the like miserable trumpery.

If no living physicians will afford me their assistance in so interesting a concern, I will call to my aid the learned medical guides I have so often referred to, and, in the expressive language wherewith they intreated their infatuated fellow-subjects to bestow a proper attention to a concern of such importance as the preservation of their health and lives, thus with them address the public. “ We would *importune* you for
 “ your own advantage, in the preservation of your
 “ health and life, and of your relations, friends, and
 “ posterity, to consider from what sort of enemies
 “ we wish to deliver you. It is from a numer-
 “ ous class of men, who, finding you had placed
 “ an unlimited confidence in them in respect to
 “ the treatment of fevers, instead of inventing
 “ medicines for your preservation, trifled with
 “ them,

“ them, and amused you in the manner we have
“ described.”

Pliny reproved the incautious negligence of the Roman nobility and senate, by telling them that they took a great deal of pompous care in the choice of judges to try lesser causes; but negligently left their own health and lives, and those of the people, exposed to the artifices and frauds of a corrupt profession. He then passed the following sentence on them and himself; “ We are treated as we deserve, “ if we will not endeavour to discover the criminal “ who either robs or *destroys* us.”

But when the Roman nobility and senate were roused from their physical inebriation, and had banished all the authors of their medical fascination from every province of the Empire, they became physicians both to themselves and the people. “ And “ we may compute” (say the recorders so often quoted) “ the numbers cured by the Roman nobi-
“ lity and gentlemen, who applied, tried, and ex-
“ perience remedies. They had no other interest
“ but to cure the pains and diseases; whereas we see
“ that, in the trading practice, the patient is op-
“ pressed by the variety of medicines and number of
“ doses in *acute* cases, and in chronical ones shifted
“ from one medicine to another, without a prospect
“ of

“ of relief ; till loathing all physic, and dreading the
 “ expence, nature is left at liberty to preserve her-
 “ self.—Our physical calamity (continue the
 “ recorders) is worse than that of the Roman peo-
 “ ple, as their senate were able to discern the cause
 “ and apply the cure; with us they feel and com-
 “ plain, but, as in a croud of cheats, without redress.”

Having thus given my readers the friendly advice and information of the learned society of real guardians of health, who flourished the beginning of this century ; and likewise an examination of the laughable and trivial prescriptions written by eminent and highly-esteemed physicians of the present age for patients afflicted with violent fevers ; together with the recipes published by the learned teachers of the present practice of physic ; I shall beg leave once more to recommend them to the particular attention and consideration of the nobility and gentry to whom they are more immediately addressed, as it is from them alone that I can hope for assistance in the prosecution of my design.

If what they find in the preceding pages, in the following cases, and in my “ Observations on Fevers” (to which I beg leave to refer them), should induce them to become such friends to themselves and every rank of the community as to believe it would be much more con-

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ducive to their own safety, and the general advantage for an *hermetic febrifuge*, similar to that made use of in the time the practice of physic was honest and successful, to be made in sufficient quantities that every master or mistress of a family in the kingdom might give, or cause it to be given, to any member thereof seized with a fever, with an assurance of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days, than that the health and lives of themselves, their children, friends, and posterity, should continue to be trifled with, when fevers are prevalent, to support the most multiplex profession, luxuriant physical parade, and destructive disease of physic, that I believe was ever supported or extended at such an enormous expence, since the time of the general medical reform by the Roman nobility and senate : if, I say, the British nobility and gentry, in imitation of those of Rome, will resolve to be so much their own friends and physicians, and the friends of the people, as speedily to adopt the former of these propositions, I beg leave to assure them, that they have it in their power to accomplish all the interesting objects proposed, without employing the time and trouble the Roman nobility found necessary for discovering the medical virtues which lay concealed in the secret treasures of nature, such an *hermetic febrifuge* being already discovered, and the mode of preparing it known only to myself.

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It therefore behoves the nobility and gentry to make particular enquiry into the truth of what I assert; permitting reason, facts, and unquestionable testimonials, to be the discriminating criterion between realities and tinsel appearances which rest on no other foundation than suppositions, and prepossessions in favour of established rules and erroneous maxims.

If after such enquiry it should appear that I am possessed of a febrifuge which will cure every species of fevers, even the most malignant, in the safe, speedy, and easy manner I have repeatedly described, and consequently will anticipate the crisis and all the alarming symptoms attendant on fevers, and thereby prevent the annual loss of many thousand members of the community, with the distress and ruin of numberless families, which I humbly presume the facts I offer as proofs in the annexed cases, and many others I can produce, will demonstrate; I flatter myself I shall receive their patronage and support. The mode of rendering this invaluable remedy universally beneficial to the public I leave to themselves; but shall be ready to concur in any rational plan, and to convince them that my intentions are far from being interested or mercenary; my *chief* motive being to present the nobility and gentry with an opportunity not only of promoting their own welfare and happiness, but the national interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community.

Before I give the readers a true and genuine narrative of the facts, which I assure them shall be done with the strictest regard to truth, and which I hope may be properly admitted at the bar of reason as so many demonstrative evidences to prove that my propositions, in respect to the safe and certain effects of the hermetic febrifuge, may be fixed as a medical AXIOM, I shall beg leave to digress, and take the liberty to remind the nobility and gentry, to whom these sheets are particularly addressed, that since this hermetic febrifuge was first offered to the college of physicians, and to many members of both houses of parliament, and the public, this kingdom has lost a GRENVILLE, a BECKFORD, a BOSCAWEN, and very recently a ROCKINGHAM (whose loss every honest Briton must sincerely lament), some upright judges, together with a considerable number of persons of consequence, besides many thousands of different ranks annually cut off by fevers; the greater part whereof might have been preserved, and now ready to go forth with our fleets and armies, or usefully employed to the advantage of themselves, their families, and the community. Such, I say, are the public and private losses this nation has for many years sustained, by placing an unlimited dependance on pernicious waters and other trivial and laughable trumpery.

And at this awful conjuncture, *June 1782*, when the lives of Englishmen ought to be esteemed of particular

particular value, great numbers have died of a trivial epidemic disease denominated *influenza*. I have said *trivial*, for though it has been particularly general, I assert, and I speak from experience, that for a series of twenty-five years there has not been an epidemic disease prevalent in this kingdom so little fatal in itself, or so easy to cure. And yet, if I am not misinformed, some physicians high in esteem, and of great practice, lost too many of the patients they attended in this mild disease. To my own knowledge, three persons lay dead of it in a small family.

Shall this for ever be the fate of the sons and daughters of Britain? And shall many thousands be prematurely cut off by diseases which, though epidemic, are so very easy to cure, that a good nurse, with care and the use of an hermetic remedy, could with ease and certainty cure *fifty* patients, while the professional managers are conducting *one* through the different dolorous symptoms to the fatal crisis with pernicious waters, white sugar, &c. &c. What will be their next subterfuge when these are exploded?

Can a man be acquainted with these things, and be silent, without becoming a traitor to his king and country? I am happy in the reflection I have not been that traitor. I have spoken the truth, and have given the nobility and all my fellow-subjects an opportunity

portunity to know that their pretended guardians of health have not for many years treated them with that degree of humanity, candour, and friendly return, their great liberality and unreserved confidence deserved.

I shall now return from this digression, and beg leave once more, as it is a most important concern, to invite the nobility and gentry to a careful examination of the proposed facts, which I hope will be thought sufficiently interesting to deserve their particular attention, and convince them that, if under their benign and powerful influence the hermetic febrifuge is made in sufficient quantities for every master or mistress of a family in the kingdom to have it in their possession, that they may, as before observed, give it, or order it to be given, to any member thereof, or of their distressed neighbours, with an assurance of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days. And those by whose means it is accomplished will have the satisfaction of relieving the distressed, and promoting their own happiness and preservation, as well as the national interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community.

N A R R A T I V E

Of incidental cases which came in my way after I had left off making the febrifuge, inserted as an addition to the twenty-seven already related in my "Observations on Fevers," published in 1777; which may be read gratis, by applying to the publisher or venders hereof.

CASE of Mr. Crossley, attorney, No. 6, John-street, Adelphi.

HAVING some business with this gentleman, I found him indisposed with a cold attended with a fever; not so bad but it might be expected he would be well in a day or two. It however happened otherwise; for, calling upon him about three weeks afterwards, I found him dangerously ill of a fever, which was *then* attended with a shortness of breath, a bad cough, violent pains in his head, and other dangerous symptoms. On expressing my concern for his situation, he said, that about five years before that

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time he had had a fever which confined him to his bed nine weeks, and from which he with much difficulty escaped: and, continued he, if I now recover, I am apprehensive it will be a long time before I shall be able to do any business. I said, it was a pity his complaint had been suffered to bring him to so dangerous a situation; that if a proper medicine had been given at first, he would have been well in a day or two. The gentleman replied with all the energy his weakness and want of breath would admit—"Pray where is that remedy to be had? I don't care how much it costs if you can procure it." I answered, "Such a remedy there certainly is, but not to be purchased; nor will the proprietor part with it to any one except in cases of great emergency." On his earnestly intreating me to procure it for him, I acquainted him that no one was in possession of it but myself; that having long declined to make it, and the quantity I had reserved for myself and family so greatly reduced, by having often given it to preserve the lives of persons in imminent danger, I was then obliged to use it sparingly; nevertheless, as his situation was precarious, I would let him have some. Which having obtained, the emaciated patient soon experienced the usual happy effects: for when the physicians came to visit him the next morning, they found the fever greatly diminished, and the pain in his head much abated, and by continuing the febrifuge

fuge a few days, was so far recovered as to be able to go about his business, and in a short time after restored to perfect health.

CASE of Mrs. Swift, No. 62, Great Portland-street.

The son of the above gentlewoman, who had been acquainted with the happy effects of the febrifuge, applied to me on behalf of his mother, who, he said, had been for some time afflicted with a fever. I told him, except his parent was very dangerously ill, I could not comply with his request, on account of the small quantity I had left, and hoped that by proper care the patient would soon recover. It however happened otherwise. For some time after a complication of disorders came on, the fever became continual, and increased to a very alarming degree; it was attended with a violent pain in the head, and an intire loss of appetite and power to sleep. At the end of three weeks the young gentleman finding his parent in so dangerous a situation, applied to me again, intreating me not to refuse to make an attempt towards her preservation. I complied with his request, and went to her in the evening of the 22d of December, 1780, and found her in a situation that indicated very little hopes of recovery. I was informed she had slept very little for three weeks; her pulse was very irregular;

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the fever and pain in the head violent ; and a general debility over the whole frame ; and (as she afterwards told me) she did not expect to survive many hours. I gave her three tea-spoonfuls of the febrifuge, and ordered it to be repeated in half an hour, and four times more at proper intervals in the course of the night.

The next morning I found the fever and pain in the head greatly abated, as well as some of the other unfavourable symptoms ; but was informed she had not slept. I then ordered her three spoonfuls more, and for it to be repeated at proper intervals during the day ; and when I called in the evening had the satisfaction, for the first time, to think the emaciated patient in a fair way of recovery. The febrifuge was continued that night. The next day the fever was intirely subdued ; and I was informed she had slept composedly for several hours, and began to take some nourishment. She slept well the succeeding night, and the next day told me her appetite began to return ; and continuing to gain strength and spirits, in a short time was perfectly recovered ; and afterwards told me she enjoyed a better state of health than she had done for several years before.

CASE of Mr. Spilsbury, then of London, now of the city of Worcester, wine-merchant.

This young gentleman, who was much engaged in mercantile business, was seized with a fever, and went under the care of a gentleman who attended the family. His fever, however, continued to increase, and brought him into a very precarious and dangerous situation. His legs very much swelled, and the fever increased to an alarming degree, and in that situation he was conveyed to his mother's; who having often experienced the salubrious effects of the febrifuge, immediately applied to me, soliciting me to undertake his preservation. I immediately applied the febrifuge, which very soon subdued the fever; but it had made such deep impressions on his constitution by being trifled with at first, that there remained doubts if it could be repaired. However, by the Divine Influence co-operating with the continued use of the febrifuge, and an exterior application of an hermetic essence, in about fourteen days all those dangerous impressions were intirely removed, and the young gentleman restored to perfect health, without the least remaining marks of those impressions, frequently ever after visible from the effects of those diseases under professional management.

CASE of Mrs. Rathbone, widow of Capt. Rathbone, late a West-India trader, No. 1, Walbrook, opposite the Mansion-house.

This lady was reduced to a very weak state by an inward fever, wherewith she had been afflicted several years; and during that time had applied to many of the faculty; when a gentleman of her acquaintance, who had been informed of the virtues of the febrifuge, applied to me; represented her case, and begged I would let her have some of it; and at the same time desired me to call upon her when I went that way, which I did about a week afterwards, when she told me she found herself very ill, and her fever worse than ever. I asked, if she had taken the febrifuge I had sent by her friend.—She said no; she had been so cloyed with medicines, that she had not resolution to take any more.—But on my assuring her it would afford her speedy relief, and enable her to take care of her family, she was prevailed upon to take two tea-spoonfuls in a small glass of water; and continuing to take it at proper intervals, in about a week the fever was removed, and the languishing patient enabled to attend her domestic affairs with a chearfulness to which she had long been a stranger.

CASE of Mr. Sterry, a young gentleman who lodged with Mrs. Rathbone (mentioned in the last case).

This gentleman was some time afterwards seized with a fever, and, being much engaged in particular mercantile business, was obliged to attend it; but went home in the evening dangerously ill; when Mrs. Rathbone advised him to go to bed, and gave him some of the febrifuge which she had by her; he continued restless some part of the night; the febrifuge was repeated, and he soon after fell into a composed sleep—got up in the morning, attended his business, and by taking the febrifuge was enabled to do it without any hindrance; thereby preventing that disagreeable consequence which generally attends fevers, if not thus removed.

CASES of Mr. Storer, plumber, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, and two children.

Two children of Mr. Storer were seized with a fever, then epidemic, in a village near London. The nurse sent to inform the parents, when the mother, being accidentally acquainted with the efficacy of the febrifuge, applied to me for some of it to take with them; and on their arrival a tea-spoonful was given
to

to each of the children, repeated in half an hour, and again in about an hour. They afterwards, as I was told, went into a composed sleep, and gentle perspiration; and the next morning very little of the fever remained: they continued taking the febrifuge that day at proper intervals; the fever was thereby intirely removed, and the children restored to health. This gave the father, who had long been afflicted with an inward fever, and almost rendered incapable to look after his business, so just an idea of the real virtues of the febrifuge, that he resolved, if he could procure it, to take it, and leave off what he had so long taken without relief; for which purpose he applied to me; I could not resist his solicitations, and therefore let him have a sufficient quantity to take twice or thrice a day for ten days; he had soon the happiness to find himself relieved of his fever, and to repose well at night (which he had not done for a long time before), and was able to attend his business with pleasure and satisfaction.

A child of one of his friends was some time after dangerously ill of a fever, and thought to be at the point of death; he gave the parents a small quantity of the febrifuge he had reserved, which, by being properly used, soon removed the fever, and restored the child to perfect health.

Second

Second CASE of Mrs. Swift, No. 62, Great Portland-street, as related by her son.

The latter end of June, 1781, this gentlewoman was seized with a pain in her bowels, which in a short time became excruciating; and a physician was sent for, who thought her in so great danger, that he visited her two or three times a day for several days, when a fever came on, which day by day increased till it became very alarming, and caused her to be frequently delirious. She continued in this state for about ten days without any intermission, and was then declared to be in imminent danger; when her son, who well knew the happy effects of the febrifuge, anxious for the safety of a parent, applied to me, earnestly soliciting to have some of it for her preservation: I at first refused (not caring to interfere where gentlemen of the faculty were concerned); he told me, if I would let him have it, he would set aside the medicines ordered by the physicians, and give that only; when, thinking it hard to suffer a dutiful son to lose an affectionate parent by standing upon punctilios, I let him have a small phial, which he gave according to directions, and calling a few days after, he assured me, that when the physician attended the morning after the febrifuge was given, he found the fever so much abated as to declare her

out of danger; and afterwards taking it at proper intervals for a short time, the afflicted patient continued to mend as fast as could possibly be expected, considering the weak and languishing state to which she had been reduced by frequent loss of blood, and the violence of the disease, &c.

**CASE of Mr. Billon, No. 17, Gilt Spur-street,
West-Smithfield.**

Mr. Billon, clerk to a merchant in the city (who had a wife and children depending upon his industry), was seized with a severe and dangerous fever, which in a short time rendered him unable to follow his business, and the fever continuing about a month, he was thought to be in imminent danger; when Mr. Sterry (a gentleman mentioned in a preceding page) concerned at the unhappy situation of the family, wrote to me in his behalf, desiring I would let him have some of the febrifuge, being (as he said) persuaded it would preserve the patient's life. I sent him some, which having taken and continued at proper intervals that and two following days, the fever was intirely removed; he then began to take nourishment, in the course of five or six days was enabled to follow his employment, and in about a fortnight restored to perfect health.

CASE

CASE of Mrs. Hatchet, No. 5, Oxford-market.

This gentlewoman was for several years afflicted with a slow remitting fever, for the cure whereof all mixtures and means made use of proved ineffectual; and after a lying-in became worse, whereby she was reduced to a very uncomfortable and languishing situation; when an acquaintance, who had heard of the virtues of the febrifuge, mentioned it to her, saying, she believed that by applying to a family in which it had been frequently made use of, she was in hopes to procure it for her. This the languishing patient begged she would do. I was accordingly applied to; and having heard the case related, let her have a small phial of it, with the promise of another if wanted. She no sooner began to take it, as I was told, for I never saw her, than she experienced its salutary effects—the fever was soon subdued; and by continuing the use of the remedy at proper intervals, for some time, the bad impressions made on her constitution by the length of the fever, &c. were so far removed, that the long-afflicted patient hath ever since had the satisfaction to enjoy a better and more permanent state of health than she, or any of her family, had hopes she would ever possess.

CASE of Mrs. Conning (wife of Mr. Conning), No, 42, Cloth-Fair, near West-Smithfield.

This gentlewoman (who had experienced and often seen the good effects of the febrifuge) was suddenly taken with the epidemic disease that lately reigned, called the Influenza, attended with all its usual symptoms; her head was particularly affected, which induced her to say to her husband, "I am extremely ill—if I should lose my reason, I beg you will not suffer me to be blistered. Mr. White is in town, and I hope will let me have some of his febrifuge, if you send and inform him of my situation." This was in the evening, and succeeded by a very bad night; in the morning her daughter came to me, and solicited in behalf of her parent. I let her have some of the febrifuge, which had its usual speedy and happy effects in removing the fever and restoring to health.

Second CASE of Mr. Storer, plumber, Mount-street,

The latter end of May, 1782, Mr. Storer having caught a bad cold, it was followed by a severe cough, with shiverings and other symptoms attending the then epidemic disease, called the Influenza; and in the course of a few days a violent fever came on,

on. Having some of the febrifuge by him, he took it in the usual manner, which soon (as he afterwards spontaneously told me) had its wonted effects in removing every symptom thereof, excepting his cough; which continuing troublesome, he desired his apothecary to give him something to relieve it. A mixture being accordingly sent, the patient took some agreeable to the directions, and went to bed; where he had not long been, before his head was greatly confused, and the symptom "Horror" came violently on: which at length arose to such a height, that he thought his bed was surrounded by frightful spectres. Being a man of resolution, he endeavoured to shake off the terror, and compose himself; at the same time asking for a glass of wine, which he thought might give him relief. He no sooner had laid himself down again than the symptoms returned to a greater degree. He then once more summoned up resolution, and asked whether there was any of Mr. White's febrifuge in the house? Being answered in the affirmative, he took three or four tea-spoonfuls, and once more laid him down; when he found so sudden and happy a change, that he fell into a sound and easy sleep, in which he continued till nine o'clock the next morning, and in a few days was perfectly recovered.

Mr. Sterry (the gentleman mentioned in a preceding case) gave me the following narrative of a cure performed by the febrifuge under his direction.

A gentleman (whose name I have forgot) concerned in mercantile business, being seized with the disease called the Influenza, went under the care of some gentlemen of the faculty. The fever, nevertheless, continued, and reduced him to a very languishing state, when his friend, much concerned to see him in so weak and precarious a situation, told him, if he would take something he would give him, he believed it would soon recover him; the patient readily consented, and quickly experienced the usual effects of the febrifuge, which soon restored him to a perfect and permanent state of health.

CASE of Mr. Swift, No. 62, Great Portland-street.

The latter end of May, 1782, Mr. Swift was suddenly taken ill of the then reigning disease the influenza. It began (as I was told) by frequent uncommon shiverings, with intervals of heat and other symptoms attending that disease. He suffered it to go on that day and the succeeding night; when a very severe fever came on, attended with great pain in the head, insomuch that he soon became delirious.

His mother thinking him in danger, sent to me, acquainting me with his situation, and begged I would call. I found the patient's fever as before described, though he was then sensible. He told me the pain in his head was very severe, that he had no power or inclination to sleep, his pulse was strong, his complexion very florid, and heat excessive: in that situation I could not refuse to let him have the febrifuge, which I desired might be immediately given, repeated in half an hour, and four or five times more in the course of the day and night; during which time he had very little sleep, but the next day began to be more composed, and the succeeding night slept several hours; in the morning the fever had subsided, and the day following he was able to go about his business.

I saw the following prescription wrote by a grave and learned physician for a patient ill of the same influenza :

White sugar 20 grains.

Emetic tartar . . . half a grain to 1 grain.

Divide into two powders, one to be taken at eight o'clock in the evening, the other at eleven; and every sixth hour the following draft.

Common mint water . . . 1½ ounce.

Nutmeg water 2 drams.

Syrup

Syrup of mulberries . . . 2 drams.

The Patient died.

How many thousands of such or the like powders and drafts were sent into the chambers of those sick of that disease, and with what success I cannot pretend to say!—I will, however, hope that neither those who prescribe such mixtures, or send them in without prescription, will be offended if I ask them, whether they really and sincerely believe those or the like mixtures can be of any material service in such cases.

CASE of Miss Pearson, sister to Mr. Pearson, china-man, No. 135, New-Bond-Street.

Miss Pearson (in whose family and acquaintance many cures had been performed by the use of the febrifuge during the space of twenty years) was taken with the influenza, attended with more severe symptoms than any I had met with, particularly an oppression and pain at her heart, with shiverings and cold sweats, and did not suppose she could survive many hours; but recollecting she had some of the febrifuge by her, ordered three tea-spoonfuls to be brought her, which taking in half a cup of water, it soon afforded her relief; about ten minutes she took

took the same quantity, which, according to its usual manner of operation, presently removed all those alarming symptoms.

Thinking herself intirely freed from the disorder, and desirous to save the remainder of the febrifuge for another emergency, she left off taking it. A day or two after she felt herself not well, but took no notice. However, at night, when in bed, the symptom "Horror" came upon her, and prevented her sleeping the whole night. She arose early in the morning much fatigued for want of rest, but not supposing she had any fever, had not recourse to the febrifuge. The next day a friend called in, and finding her in a languishing situation, went to a gentleman of the profession and related the case; who sent a bottle of mixture. Nevertheless, the same symptoms came on more severely the two succeeding nights; when for want of rest, and from the effects of the disease, the patient looked as if just recovering from a long and tedious illness.

I happened to call upon her brother in the evening, who informed me of his sister's situation. I went to the room where she was sitting exceeding pale and dejected, when she related her case to me in the manner before described. Upon asking if she had any of the febrifuge, I was answered in the affirmative.

tive. I said, it was pity she had suffered so much when the remedy was in her possession; and that if she would set aside the mixture, and follow my directions, I hoped she would enjoy rest that and the succeeding nights. The patient consenting, I desired her to take three tea-spoonfuls of the febrifuge about ten minutes before she went to bed, and three more before she lay down; and if, after that, any of the symptoms came on, then to take the like quantity; but the first two doses had so good an effect, that she went to sleep; slept composedly the whole night, and had no more returns of the disease.

Mrs. Harrison, cheesemonger, No. 59, New-Bond-Street,

Had the misfortune to have her house burnt down, when, by catching a bad cold, and through the fright and grief occasioned by the unfortunate accident, a slow fever came on, attended with langour, fluttering, and palpitation of the heart, and the fever becoming violent, brought on a general debility; which added to her distressed situation, by rendering her incapable to look after her business. When a benevolent friend, who had afforded her a temporary asylum, and had long and repeatedly experienced the salutary effects of the hermetic febrifuge, represented

represented the distressed situation of the patient to me: I gave her a small bottle of the remedy, the happy effects of which she described to me a few days after in the following or similar words: "I can, not, Sir, find words to express the obligation I owe to you; for when I was just sinking under the burden of my misfortunes, you, by the blessing of God, have raised me up and given me new life—so soon as I had taken your remedy three or four times, I began to feel its good effects, and afterwards by the continuance of it, the fever, heart-burning, fluttering, and langour left me; and I am now, thanks to God, able to look after my business."

The following very singular case I had forgot (as well as many others) when I published the cases in my "Observations on Fevers, and on the Defects of the Materia Medica" before mentioned. I should not now have remembered it, had it not been recently related by himself nearly in the following words to a person of high rank on a particular occasion.

CASE of Mr. John Ingram (now coachman to the King).

"About fourteen or fifteen years ago, being in the service of his grace the duke of Rut-

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"land;

“ land; in the road to Belvoir-castle, I had the
 “ misfortune to sleep in a damp bed at Stamford,
 “ Lincolnshire, by which a very severe illness was
 “ brought upon me; and notwithstanding the
 “ greatest care was taken for my recovery, it conti-
 “ nually grew worse; and, at the end of ten or
 “ twelve months, I solicited my discharge, in order
 “ to stay in London for fresh advice, and then went
 “ under the care of a doctor in Lower Grosvenor-
 “ street, and Mr. Filer, an apothecary in Mount-
 “ street.—I continued under their treatment a con-
 “ siderable time, without receiving more benefit
 “ than I had before met with.—They at length gave
 “ me over, and advised me to go into my native air,
 “ and see what that would do.—I did so, and there
 “ my fever grew worse, and my spitting of bloody
 “ matter increased.—I then returned to London
 “ (being very desirous to have doctor Fothergill’s
 “ advice), and on my arrival went immediately un-
 “ der his care; who, I believe, did all in his power
 “ to recover me; and in the beginning, I thought,
 “ did me some service; but that was of short dura-
 “ tion; my fever and spitting of blood continued,
 “ my throat was exceedingly sore, and much swelled,
 “ and I was reduced to a situation that left me no
 “ remaining hopes of recovery: when my wife
 “ having heard that Mr. White’s febrifuge had re-
 “ covered a person of a long and tedious illness
 “ something

" something like mine; she went to him, and re-
 " lating my case begged him to call upon me the
 " next day.—He accordingly came, and at my re-
 " quest agreed to let me have some of his febrifuge :
 " I had not taken it more than four or five days,
 " before I experienced a great alteration for the
 " better; and in a little more than a week, the
 " fever, which had so long afflicted me, was cured ;
 " the bloody matter I used to spit soon began to
 " change colour, and greatly diminish, as well as
 " the soreness in my mouth and throat ; and by con-
 " tinuing the use of that remedy alone for a few
 " weeks, I was so recovered as to walk several miles,
 " and soon after to follow my employment. But the
 " length and violence of the disease had caused
 " so great an inward weakness, that, for some years,
 " whenever I caught a bad cold, was hurried or over-
 " fatigued, I felt inward pains, and the spitting of
 " blood returned ; which was always quickly re-
 " moved so long as I could have the febrifuge.—It
 " happened once, since I had the honour to be in his
 " majesty's service, that running hastily across the
 " Mews, I soon after felt inward pains, and the spit-
 " ting of blood came on ; when, by applying to my
 " former benefactor, I obtained a small bottle of the
 " remedy, and taking it five or six times, was en-
 " tirely freed from my pains and fears."

Having given the readers an opportunity of examining the preceding cases, describing some cures which (exclusive of many others) have been performed by the febrifuge since those published 1777 in my "Observations on Fevers" before mentioned (which the readers have been informed they may have to peruse by applying to the publisher of these pages), I shall beg leave, before I conclude, to offer to their attention some circumstances which have happened since the publication of those Observations.

Soon after that treatise was printed, it was read by some persons of rank, who, after having considered the propositions it contained, and the reason and facts stated in support thereof, thought it a business of too much consequence to the public to be passed by unnoticed, and were therefore very desirous to have it undertaken by the gentlemen of the faculty. I told them, that was what I had long wished for; yet the answers which I had received to the requests formerly made for that purpose, caused me to apprehend the faculty would not be prevailed upon to give it a serious and candid investigation. However, one of the noblemen said he had given my book to be examined by a gentleman of the profession, of whose humanity and benevolence his lordship was so fully persuaded, as not to doubt he would give all the assistance in his power, to render such a discovery useful

to society; and then gave me permission to wait on him in his name.

This gentleman, of whose benevolence and good intentions for promoting the welfare and happiness of mankind I have the same opinion as his lordship, received me in a very courteous manner, and took me into a room where another person (I believe a physician) was sitting; to whom, in a strain that indicated a mind fraught with the foregoing sentiments, he thus addressed himself: "This gentleman hath made a discovery superior to any reward—He hath discovered a medicine that hath safely and speedily cured all sorts of fevers for twenty years." He also said other things of the like import. The gentleman made no reply; nor did he appear to be well pleased with the intelligence, from the sullen silence with which he received it. I humbly ask his pardon if I am mistaken. However, the gentleman to whom I had been recommended for the purpose of obtaining opportunities to give additional proofs of the safe and certain effects of the febrifuge under medical inspection, told me he was then obliged to go out, and desired I would call upon him in two or three days, which I accordingly did; and though I sincerely believe he then retained the same benevolent ideas, I perceived a material difference and reservedness in his behaviour. He told me his situation was such

such as not to afford opportunities for procuring proper cases, but should be in company with many physicians in a few days, and would mention the business to them. Thus ended the second interview with an agreement for me to call again.

I waited upon him three or four mornings afterwards; he then informed me he had spoke to a gentleman of the faculty, who he believed would procure cases for trying the effects of the febrifuge under medical inspection; a thing I then earnestly wished for, having at that time a sufficient quantity for the purpose. I was directed to a physician, who I really believe possesses nearly the same sentiments and disposition with the former, but he was *a member of the college*; and I soon found, that whatever opinion particular gentlemen of the faculty may entertain on that subject, the introduction of a febrifuge into general use, that will cure fevers in the safe, speedy, and effectual manner I have mentioned, can never be effected *through the medium of physicians* so long as the present destructive system of physic continues.

Being thus convinced, I waited upon my noble patron, and informed him of the steps I had taken, and that my applications, though honoured by his recommendation, had not been more successful than the many others I had formerly made.

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This nobleman, to his praise be it remembered, still anxious to be instrumental in promoting the happiness of the community, took the trouble personally to enquire in several of the families where cures were mentioned to have been performed, if those cures were truly related; and did me the honour to inform me that all those who were applied to spoke very highly in favour of the febrifuge, and declared the cases referred to to be very fairly stated. His lordship also wrote to a lady in the country who had always used it in her family, from its first discovery to the time of my declining to make it, and received from her the following answer;

“ Mrs. Warner’s respects attend lord ——— : can
 “ assure his lordship the cases referred to are real
 “ facts, and are two among the numerous instances
 “ of the excellent qualities of the febrifuge which
 “ have happened within the circle of her acquaintance.
 “ Mrs. Warner has every reason to be warm in
 “ its praise, as she has used it with success above twenty
 “ years, and believes two of her children owe their
 “ present existence to it. She has experienced it to be
 “ a sovereign remedy in all eruptive fevers and putrid
 “ cases, and will take upon her to assert, that, was it
 “ a general medicine, thousands who are yearly carried
 “ off by those cruel distempers, would owe their
 “ pre-

“ preservation to the febrifuge, and live to join in its
 “ praise.”

I have not the least doubt but that any of the persons mentioned in the cases (as well as many others not taken notice of) will, when applied to, prove themselves as anxious for the introduction of the febrifuge as the above lady. I shall therefore conclude, by once more repeating that it must be ultimately left to the nobility and gentry, on whom, after Divine Providence, it intirely depends, whether their health and lives, as well as those of their inferiors, must continue to be risked on the trivial mixtures and precarious means before described, or whether it is worth their while so far to exert themselves for their own preservation, and for the preservation of every other class of British subjects, as, by their auspicious influence, to become instruments in the introduction of an hermetic febrifuge to be made in sufficient quantities, the salubrious virtues whereof are such as to enable every master or mistress of a family in the nation to give it, or order it to be given, to any member thereof, or those of their distressed neighbours, with an assurance of returning health the next morning, or at farthest in three or four days; and thereby realize all the interesting objects proposed, namely, national interest, national security, and the general advantage of the community.

F I N I S.